

Many Massachusetts communities have already organized energy/environmental committees or commissions, while others have organized under regional government agencies. Having a team increases collaboration, helps build consensus, and allows the involvement of those affected by particular decisions. Building a team of essential players, with a unified vision of the actions your city or town can achieve, will help meet the challenge of creating and implementing the program.

Key team members can include:

- An experienced energy specialist or engineer.
- The facilities maintenance department
- The finance department
- The local utility
- The Mayor's office or City Manager's office.

Representatives from outside local government are important to the energy management program. State and federal energy programs and the local utility can provide training, technical assistance, loans, grants, and other vital services. Public representatives are valuable since they may provide input and support for the energy efficiency changes made in local government facilities as part of the program.

The following table lists potential team members (key team members and others you may wish to involve in specific projects), the reason they are important to a successful energy management program, and points of interest to them for participating.

Potential Team Members	Role:	Benefits:
City Council, Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and City Manager	Approve budgets and make necessary policy changes Create a high-profile program and add credibility	Achieve energy savings that can then be invested into other services
Facility maintenance staff	Provide facility information Maintain existing equipment to increase energy savings Purchase and install efficient equipment at the time that existing equipment is replaced Identify retrofit opportunities Advise on retrofit strategies	Learn about function, maintenance requirements, and state-of-the-art technologies
Local utility	Provide energy use data, case studies from other local governments, technical assistance, and funding	Meet their program goals Maintain good relations with an important customer and the public
Finance department	Assist in solving budgetary barriers and creating a financial plan Support the development of an energy accounting system	Save funds for other services Reduce energy bills and maintenance costs
Local government department heads	Foster support for the program Support energy-efficiency design modifications to new facilities Enhance the program's visibility and credibility Assist with processing contracts related to energy efficiency	Improve comfort (indoor air quality, lighting, heat, and humidity) Achieve energy savings that can then be invested into other services



Potential Team Members	Role:	Benefits:
Construction managers	Ensure that energy-efficiency measures are properly installed during construction	Help ensure that their project budgets are not exceeded (although new technologies may be worth additional expenditures due to lifecycle savings) Learn about new policies that they will need to follow
Purchasers	Assist information collection Facilitate purchasing energy-efficient equipment	Maintain product quality
Building inspectors	Accept new technologies and enforce designs	Learn about new products and suppliers Learn about new policies that they will need to follow
Designers: architects and engineers	Design energy efficiency and renewable energy systems into construction projects Provide technical assistance with implementing the energy management program	Improve comfort (indoor air quality, lighting, heat, and humidity) Express concerns about staying within the project budget Learn about state-of-the-art energy efficiency technologies Keep abreast of developing state and federal regulations
Public representatives other than elected officials. Examples are representatives from the local historical building society, government advocacy groups, and environmental groups	Avoid complaints about the changes to public facilities. Communicate that the government is improving energy efficiency to the public. Help the public understand why the changes are positive	Achieve energy savings that can then be invested into other services Upgrade facilities Improve comfort (indoor air quality, lighting, heat, and humidity) Improve local air quality Protect habitat Reduce global climate change
State and federal officials	Provide case studies from other local governments, training, technical assistance, and financial resources.	Meet their program goals Maintain support from elected representatives

Source: Urban Consortium EnergyTaskforce

For more information, contact
 Eileen McHugh
 Department of Energy Resources
 617-626-7305
eileen.mchugh@state.ma.us